

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of the claims replaces all prior claims presented in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A method for reducing a level of amyloid- β (A β) peptides in vivo, which method comprises administering an A β level reducing dose of an estradiol estrogen compound or a conjugated equine estrogen composition to an animal, wherein the animal has an increased level of A β , and wherein the dose of the estrogen estradiol compound or conjugated equine estrogen composition does not affect soluble APP levels.
2. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the level of amyloid-A β is a level of soluble amyloid-A β in the brain of the animal.
3. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the estradiol estrogen compound is 17 β -estradiol.
4. **(Cancelled).**
5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the A β peptides comprise A β 42 and A β 40, which method further comprises reducing the ratio of A β 42 to A β 40.
6. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the A β peptides are A β 42 peptides.
- 7-19. (Cancelled).
20. **(Cancelled).**
21. (Cancelled).
22. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 3 20, wherein the 17 β -estradiol is administered daily for at least ten days.
23. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 3 20, wherein the 17 β -estradiol is administered by a controlled release device.

24. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 20, wherein the animal exhibits at least one symptom associated with Alzheimer's disease ~~disease or disorder associated with amyloidosis is Alzheimer's disease.~~
25. **(Cancelled).**
- 26-30. (Cancelled).
31. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 4, wherein the dose of conjugated equine estrogen composition is administered to a human and is selected from the group consisting of 0.3 mg, 0.625 mg, 1.25 mg, and 2.5 mg.
32. (Cancelled).
33. (Cancelled).
34. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3 20, wherein the A β level reducing dose is about 0.5 μ g 17 β -estradiol per kg body weight to about 50 mg 17 β -estradiol per kg body weight, per day.
35. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the A β level reducing dose is about 5 μ g 17 β -estradiol per kg body weight to about 10 mg 17 β -estradiol per kg body weight, per day.